

Application Serial No. 09/833,507

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended by inserting the missing application information on pages 1 and 2 of the present application.

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended by incorporating the recitations of claim 2 therein. Claims 2 and 19 have thereby been cancelled.

Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested. Review and reconsideration on the merits are further requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-13, 17, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Okunuki, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

The present claims are directed to an adhesive comprising an alcohol-soluble polyamide and an electrically conductive filler. Okunuki, et al. does not teach or suggest an adhesive comprising a polyamide and electrically conductive filler. Instead, Okunuki teaches a surface layer comprising a polyamide. Applicants refer to Okunuki at column 3, line 37-47 wherein it is recited that a surface layer comprises nylon, or substituted nylon. Also, Okunuki, et al. does not teach or suggest an alcohol-soluble polyamide. Therefore, because Okunuki, et al. does not teach or suggest all the elements of the present claims, Applicants submit that the claims are not anticipated by Okunuki, et al.

In addition, Applicants submit that the present claims are not obvious in view of the reference. Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art faced with the teachings of Okunuki, et al. as using a polyamide as a surface layer, would not have been motivated to use an alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler material as an adhesive layer, absent some teaching or suggestion. Accordingly, applicants submit that the present claims are also not rendered obvious by the teachings of Okunuki, et al.

In view of the above arguments, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8-13, 17, 19 and 20 under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Okunuki, et al.

Claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Jung, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

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Jung, et al. teaches at column 3, starting at line 40, a transference medium which can be used as an adhesive. The transference medium can comprise polyamide and a "conducting medium disbursed therein." Applicants point out that the present claims have been amended to recite that the polyamide of the adhesive material is an alcohol-soluble polyamide. Jung, et al. does not teach or suggest use of an alcohol-soluble polyamide as an adhesive. Because Jung, et al. does not teach or suggest all the elements of the present claims, Applicants submit that the present claims are not anticipated by Jung, et al.

Applicants further submit that the present claims are not rendered obvious by the teachings of Jung, et al. Specifically, Jung, et al. teaches that the adhesive material can comprise epoxy, polythiophene, acylate, phenol-formaldehyde, polyamide, and combinations thereof. Therefore, the polyamide is taught in a laundry list of other materials that could be used as the base for the adhesive. Also, there is no teaching or suggestion in the reference to use an alcohol-soluble polyamide. In addition, polyamide is only given as one in a long list of examples of different materials that can be used as the adhesive base. Therefore, Applicants submit that the alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler adhesive as claimed, is not obvious in view of Jung, et al.

In view of the above, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 20 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Jung, et al.

Claims 1-6, 8-13, 17, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Nakamura, et al. In response, applicants traverse the rejection.

Nakamura, et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler adhesive. Instead Nakamura, et al. teaches a surface layer of a photoreceptor that can have electrically conductive particles disbursed therein. The surface layer does not include a polyamide material. Therefore, the section of the reference pointed out by the Office Action, i.e., column 6, lines 23-28, does not include a reference to a polyamide material.

In addition, Example 1, which is also pointed out in the office Action, discusses a completely different layer than that discussed as column 6. The surface layer discussed at column 6 is not discussed in Example 1 at column 10. Instead, a coating solution for a

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"subbing layer" is discussed at column 10 as being an alcohol-soluble polyamide resin. However, there is no teaching or suggestion that this alcohol-soluble polyamide can be used as an adhesive. In addition, there is no teaching or suggestion that an electrically conductive filler can be used with the alcohol-soluble polyamide.

Because Nakamura, et al. does not teach or suggest an adhesive comprising an alcohol-soluble polyamide having an electrically conductive filler, Applicants submit that the present claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the teachings of Nakamura, et al.

Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8-13, 17, 19 and 20 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Nakamura, et al.

Claims 1-14, 17, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Nakamura, et al. in view of Everaerts, et al. or Dinh, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Applicants repeat the above arguments as why the claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the teachings of Nakamura, et al. Nakamura, et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler used as an adhesive. Instead, Nakamura, et al. teaches a surface layer having electrically conductive fillers disbursed therein. Further, Nakamura, et al. teaches a subbing layer having an alcohol-soluble polyamide. However, Nakamura, et al. does not teach or suggest an adhesive comprising either electrically conductive particles, or an alcohol-soluble polyamide.

Applicants submit that the secondary references do not include the deficiencies of the primary references. The Office Action points to the Abstract of Everaerts, et al. The Abstract does not teach or suggest an adhesive of any kind. Turning to Dinh, et al., this reference discusses use of a polyamide as a film forming material, and not as an adhesive as claimed. Therefore, Applicants submit that because neither reference alone or in combination, teaches the elements of the claims, the present claims are not rendered obvious in view of the teachings of the combinations cited in the Office Action.

Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-14, 17, 19 and 20 under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Nakamura, et al. in view of Everaerts, et al. or Dinh, et al.

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Claim 1 has been rejected to under 35 USC §102(e) as anticipated by Akram. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Akram teaches a conductive polyamide adhesive at column 4, lines 42-43. However, the reference does not teach or suggest an alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler as an adhesive. Applicants submit that adhesives can be rendered conductive in many ways. Therefore, the teachings of a conductive polyamide adhesive does not render an alcohol-soluble polyamide adhesive having electrically conductive filler obvious. In addition, the reference does not teach or suggest an alcohol-soluble polyamide. Applicants submit that there is no teaching or suggestion in the reference that would have motivated anyone of ordinary skill in the art to substitute an alcohol-soluble polyamide for a polyamide as taught by Akram. In view of the above arguments, Applicants submit that the present claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious, in view of Akram.

Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC §102(e) as anticipated by Akram.

Claims 1-6, 8 and 14-20 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Fuller, et al. or Dinh, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Fuller, et al. teaches polyamide as an overcoat for an imaging member, and not as an adhesive. The overcoat is taught at column 17, beginning at line 36, as including dihydroxy arylamine charged transport molecules. There is no teaching or suggestion in the reference to use polyamide as an adhesive, as it is taught as an overcoat for an imaging member. In addition, there is no teaching or suggestion in the reference to use an alcohol-soluble polyamide in combination with electrically conductive filler as an adhesive. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present claims are not rendered obvious in view of the teachings of Fuller, et al.

Turning to Dinh, et al., as discussed above, this reference teaches using a polyhydroxy diaryl amine small molecule charged transport material as a layer in an imaging member. The reference does not teach or suggest the use of an alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler as an adhesive. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present claims are not rendered obvious in view of the teachings of Dinh.

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Because neither Fuller, et al. nor Dinh, et al. teach all of the elements of the present claims, Applicants submit that the claims are not anticipated in view of either reference. In addition, because there is no teaching or suggestion in either reference to modify the polyamide into an alcohol-soluble polyamide, and to use the polyamide as an adhesive instead of an overcoat (Fuller) or a charge transport layer (Dinh), and to also add an electrically conductive filler therein, Applicants submit that the present claims are not rendered obvious in view of either reference alone, or in combination.

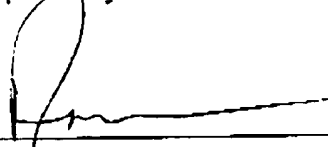
In view of the above arguments, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8 and 14-20 under 35 USC §102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Fuller, et al. or Dinh, et al.

In view of the above arguments and amendments, Applicants submit that all claims should now be in condition for allowance. Early indication of allowability is respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation Attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, s/he is hereby authorized to call Applicant's Attorney, Annette L. Bade, at telephone number (310) 333-3682, El Segundo, California.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amended Cross Reference to Related Applications for the pending Cross Reference To Related Applications:

Attention is directed to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/493,445 (D/97525D), filed January 28, 2000, entitled "Process and Apparatus for Producing an Endless Seamed Belt;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/470,931 (D/99689) filed December 22, 1999, entitled, "Continuous Process for Manufacturing Imageable Seamed Belts for Printers;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/088,011, (D/97683), filed May 28, 1998, entitled, "Unsaturated Carbonate Adhesives for Component Seams;" U.S. Patent Application No. 09/615,444 (D/99598), filed July 13, 2000, entitled, "Polyimide Adhesive For Polyimide Component Interlocking Seams;" U.S. Patent Application No. 09/615,426 (D/99598Q), filed July 13, 2000, entitled, "Process For Seaming Interlocking Seams Of Polyimide Component Using Polyimide Adhesive"; U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/660,248 (D/99610), filed September 13, 2000, entitled, "Imageable Seamed Belts Having Fluoropolymer Adhesive Between Interlocking Seaming Members;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/660,249 (D/99610Q), filed September 13, 2000, entitled, "Imageable Seamed Belts Having Fluoropolymer Overcoat;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [-----] 09/833,930 (A0895) filed [-----] April 11, 2001, entitled, "Imageable Seamed Belts Having Hot Melt Processable, Thermosetting Resin and Conductive Carbon Filler Adhesive Between Interlocking Seaming Members;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [-----] 09/833,965 (D/A0895Q), filed [-----] April 11, 2001, entitled, "Conductive Carbon Filled Polyvinyl Butyral Adhesive;" U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [-----] 09/833,488 (D/A0895Q1), filed [-----] April 11, 2001, entitled, "Dual Curing Process for Producing a Puzzle Cut Seam;" and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [-----] 09/833,546 (A0584) filed [-----] April 11, 2001, entitled "Imageable Seamed Belts Having Polyamide Adhesive Between Interlocking Seaming Members." The disclosures of each of these references are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

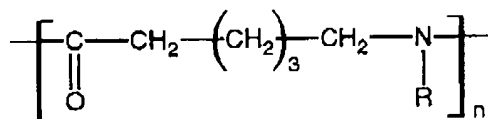
1. (Amended) An adhesive comprising [a] an alcohol-soluble polyamide and electrically conductive filler.

Claim 2 has been cancelled.

3. (Amended) An adhesive in accordance with claim [2] 1, wherein said alcohol-soluble polyamide comprises pendant groups selected from the group consisting of methoxy, ethoxy and hydroxy pendant groups.

Claim 19 has been cancelled.

20. (Amended) An adhesive comprising [a] an alcohol-soluble polyamide having the following general formula:



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen; alkyl having from about 1 to about 20 carbons, alkoxy having from about 1 to about 20 carbons, alkyl alkoxy having from about 1 to about 20 carbons, and alkylene alkoxy having from about 1 to about 20 carbons, and wherein n is a number of from about 50 to about 1,000.